

STUDIES IN THE EUPATORIEAE (ASTERACEAE). LXXVII.

ADDITIONS TO THE GENUS STEVIOPSIS.

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Almost simultaneously with the description of Steviopsis, the publication by McVaugh (1972) transferred the type species, Stevia rapunculoides DC, from Eupatorium to Brickellia. The placement by McVaugh was based on a number of characters including the number of ribs on the achenes which is usually more than 5, the style branches which are broad and smooth, and the tubular corolla. Moreover, McVaugh called attention to a related species, Brickellia amblyolepis B.L.Robinson. Now, after a review of these species and others in the genus Brickellia we can agree with the species relationship cited by McVaugh, but we would retain the genus Steviopsis including the species cited by McVaugh and a third species, Brickellia pulcherrima B.L.Robinson. A fourth species is described here as new.

The four species of Steviopsis can be distinguished from Brickellia most easily by the lack of an expanded setiferous node at the base of the style. Additional distinguishing characters are the indistinct carpodium and the lack of distinct fringes on the lateral surfaces of the pappus setae. Also distinctive are the elongate corolla lobes without glands. The ternate leaves originally noted in Steviopsis are characteristic of the type species only. The additional species show alternate leaves in most of the upper portions and the older parts of B. amblyolepis commonly show whorls of 4 or 5 leaves.

In spite of the differences cited, the genus Steviopsis does seem closely related to Brickellia. The genera Dyscritogyne and Kyrsteniopsis are probably in this general relationship also.

Key to the species of Steviopsis.

1. Phyllaries narrowly acute, achenes usually with 5-7 ribs. 2
1. Phyllaries short-acute to obtuse, achenes usually with 9-10 ribs. 3

2. Leaves mostly in whorls of three, narrowly lanceolate, not or scarcely trinerved at base  
S. rapunculoides
2. Most leaves alternate, elliptical-ovate, strongly trinervate  
S. arsenei
3. Leaves ovate, without glands; most lower leaves in whorls of 4 or more; outer phyllaries obtuse  
S. amblyolepis
3. Leaves linear-lanceolate, with glands, mostly alternate; outer phyllaries short acute  
S. pulcherrima

Our studies indicate that the genus contains the following four species.

Steviopsis amblyolepis (B.L.Robinson) R.M.King & H. Robinson, comb. nov. Brickellia amblyolepis B.L.Robinson, Proc. Amer. Acad. 36: 485. 1901. Mexico.

Steviopsis arsenei R.M.King & H.Robinson, sp. nov.

Plantae herbaceae erectae; caules breviter puberuli irregulariter maculati, maculis elongatis pubescentibus. Folia superiora alterna, petiolis ca. 0.5-1.0 cm longis, laminis 4-13 cm longis 1.5 - 4.0 cm latis elliptico-ovatis vix acuminatis distincte serratis base trinervatis supra glabra subtus in nervis breviter hirsutis. Inflorescentiae dense paniculatae pauca ramosae, pedicellis 2-7 mm longis dense puberulis. Capitula ca. 1.0 alta, floribus ca. 30-35; involucris squamae 25-35 eximbricatae 2-3-seriatae plerumque anguste lanceolatae anguste acutae; corollae anguste infundibulares ca. 6 mm longae, lobis longe triangularibus extus glabris; achaenia dense longe setifera, glandulifera; pappi setae ca. 30 argute scabrae. Grana pollinis 27-30 $\mu$  diam.

MEXICO: Michoacan: Cerro San Miguel, Vicinity of Morelia, alt. 2100 meters. 15 September 1910. Bro. G. Arsene 10215 (Holotype US !).

Steviopsis pulcherrima (B.L.Robinson) R.M.King & H. Robinson, comb. nov. Brickellia pulcherrima B.L.Robinson, Contr. Gray Herb. n.s. 31: 268. 1904. Mexico.

Steviopsis rapunculoides (A.P.Decandolle) R.M.King &  
H.Robinson, *Phytologia* 22: 157. 1971. Mexico.

#### Reference

McVaugh, Rogers. 1972. *Compositarum Mexicanarum*  
*Pugillus*. *Contr. Univ. Mich. Herb.* 9:(4): 359-  
484.

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